

WE CLAIM:

1. A method for constituting an integrated enterprise taxonomy for an intellectual capital management system serving a plurality of local enterprise communities,
5 comprising the steps of:
 - extracting a plurality of local taxonomies from the plurality of local enterprise community models;
 - correlating from each of said plurality of local taxonomies a set of topics and a set of associations for
10 generating a correlated topics and associations set relating to each of said plurality of local taxonomies;
 - deriving a plurality of synonym links for linking synonyms within said correlated topics and associations set;
 - integrating said plurality of synonym links and said
15 correlated topics and associations set into an integrated enterprise taxonomy; and
 - exporting said integrated enterprise taxonomy into said intellectual capital management system.
- 20 2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of determining internal consistency within each of said plurality of local taxonomies.
3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
25 forming said correlated topics and associations set as a metamodel system; and
constituting said set of topics and associations to be correlated as relationships within said metamodel system.
- 30 4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said exporting step further comprises the step of exporting said integrated enterprise taxonomy into said intellectual capital management

system as a plurality of comma-separated-value files comprising said synonym links and said correlated topics and association set.

5 5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 forming said correlated topics and associations set as a
 hierarchical tree structure within a metamodel system; and
 forming said set of topics as node objects within
 said hierarchical tree structure; and
10 forming said set of associations as relationships
 between said node objects within said hierarchical tree
 structure.

 6. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of
15 forming with said synonym links a canonical synonym link
 structure associated with a canonical synonym from among said
 synonyms, said canonical synonym link structure for
 associating non-canonical synonyms with said canonical
 synonym, said canonical synonym possessing a higher order
20 than other ones of said synonyms.

 7. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of
 associating said integrated enterprise taxonomy with a
 plurality of enterprise documents associated with said
25 intellectual capital management system.

 8. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of
 forming said integrated enterprise taxonomy as a metamodel
 system associated with said intellectual capital management
30 system.

9. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of forming said integrated enterprise taxonomy as a database associated with said intellectual capital management system..

5 10. A system for constituting an integrated enterprise taxonomy for an intellectual capital management system serving a plurality of local enterprise communities, comprising:

 instructions for extracting a plurality of local
10 taxonomies from the plurality of local enterprise communities;

 instructions for correlating from each of said plurality of local taxonomies a set of topics and a set of associations for generating a correlated topics and associations set
15 relating to each of said plurality of local taxonomies;

 instructions for deriving a plurality of synonym links for linking synonyms within said correlated topics and associations set;

 instructions for integrating said plurality of synonym
20 links and said correlated topics and associations set into an integrated enterprise taxonomy; and

 instructions for exporting said integrated enterprise taxonomy into said intellectual capital management system.

25 11. The system of Claim 10, further comprising instructions for determining internal consistency within each of said plurality of local taxonomies.

 12. The system of Claim 10, further comprising:
30 instructions for forming said correlated topics and associations set as a metamodel system; and
 instructions for constituting said set of topics and

associations to be correlated as relationships within said metamodel system.

13. The system of Claim 10, wherein said exporting
5 instruction further comprise instructions for exporting said integrated enterprise taxonomy into said intellectual capital management system as a plurality of comma-separated-value files comprising said synonym links and said correlated topics and association set.

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14. The system of Claim 10, further comprising:
instructions for forming said correlated topics and associations set as a hierarchical tree structure within a metamodel system; and
15 instructions for forming said set of topics as node objects within said hierarchical tree structure; and
instructions for forming said set of associations as relationships between said node objects within said hierarchical tree structure.

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15. The system of Claim 10, further comprising
instructions for forming with said synonym links a canonical synonym link structure associated with a canonical synonym
from among said synonyms, said canonical synonym link
25 structure for associating non-canonical synonyms with said canonical synonym, said canonical synonym possessing a higher order than other ones of said synonyms.

16. The system of Claim 10, further comprising
30 instructions for associating said integrated enterprise taxonomy with a plurality of enterprise documents associated

with said intellectual capital management system.

17. The system of Claim 10, further comprising instructions for forming said integrated enterprise taxonomy
5 as a metamodel system associated with said intellectual capital management system.

18. The system of Claim 10, further comprising instructions for forming said integrated enterprise taxonomy
10 as a database associated with said intellectual capital management system.

19. A storage medium for constituting an integrated enterprise taxonomy for an intellectual capital management
15 system serving a plurality of local enterprise communities, said storage medium comprising:

instructions for extracting a plurality of local taxonomies from the plurality of local enterprise communities;

20 instructions for correlating from each of said plurality of local taxonomies a set of topics and a set of associations for generating a correlated topics and associations set relating to each of said plurality of local taxonomies;

instructions for deriving a plurality of synonym links
25 for linking synonyms within said correlated topics and associations set;

instructions for integrating said plurality of synonym links and said correlated topics and associations set into an integrated enterprise taxonomy; and

30 instructions for exporting said integrated enterprise taxonomy into said intellectual capital management system.

20. The storage medium of Claim 19, further comprising:
instructions for forming said correlated topics and
associations set as a hierarchical tree structure within a
metamodel system; and
- 5 instructions for forming said set of topics as node
objects within said hierarchical tree structure; and
instructions for forming said set of associations
as relationships between said node objects within said
hierarchical tree structure.